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for a series of newspaper articles. The first three chapters review the earlier and happier conditions of the laborer in the region and tell in a graphic manner the story of the coming of the "Slav." The remaining seven chapters tell of the social and industrial changes wrought during the last quarter of a century and the part played by the "Slav invasion" in those changes.

How important that part was in the opinion of the author is indicated by the following statement: "The coming of the Slav into the hard-coal fields was the primary or fundamental cause operating within the anthracite region to produce the strikes of 1900 and 1902. The other forces which had a part in bringing about these industrial disturbances were based upon and were put into operation by this invasion." These men, with their lower standard of living, first crowded the English-speaking workmen out of the southern field—some leaving the industry, others migrating to the northern field—then with their weapon of cheap labor attacked them in their stronghold; not that they compelled a reduction of wages, except indirectly through acquiescing in the "large ton," the growing car," and in working in places where English-speaking laborers could not support themselves. It was in the northern field that the strike of 1900 originated, as a revolt against intolerable conditions, and it was here the organization of the men began, which soon swept over the whole region. The union was able for the first time to induce the different racial elements to co-operate. It has continued the useful service of holding together these elements to a certain extent, and hence tends to check that "conflict of standards" which has brought evil, not only to the English-speaking mine worker, but to the whole community in a score of ways.

The value of the book lies in the attempt it makes to analyze and interpret the factors that dominate the anthracite communities; but it may be questioned whether, in elaborating the Slav theory, other important factors have not been neglected. The book is a vigorous stimulating piece of work.

G. O. V.

WINONA, MINN.

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*L'exode rural et le retour aux champs.* By ÉMILE VANDERVELDE.  
Paris: Félix Alcan, 1903. 8vo, pp. 304.

IN this pamphlet on the "Migrations from the Country and the Return to the Fields," the Belgian socialist Vandervelde first dis-

cusses the extent, the reasons, the forms, and the consequences of the trend toward the cities, and then investigates "whether the views of Proudhon, Pecqueur, Fourier, and Owen on the reconciliation of manufactures and agriculture, and on the significance of urban and rural life, were perhaps defective only in that they were expressed at too early a date." According to M. Vandervelde, the flight from the country is the result of a combination of three causes: the attractive force of the cities, the development and the cheapness of transportation facilities, and the relative over-population of the rural districts. This migration under any conditions is detrimental to the farmer, but it is followed by an increase of wages, not only for those who leave the country, but, as a consequence of the resulting want of help, as a rule also for those who stay. It has an extremely wholesome influence upon the intellectual, and especially the political, advancement of the emigrants, and does not affect them badly as to morals; but it is fatal to their physical development. The concentration process of the population, M. Vandervelde thinks, has already passed its highest mark. The growth of transportation facilities has enlarged the market of certain rural industries, and the removal of factories to the country has started a migration from the cities. "We then have," the author says in his conclusion, "to face a conflict between the interests of the industrial, intellectual, æsthetic production which require the concentration of a large number of people in the cities, and the interests of the public health which oppose their concentration." He sees a preliminary solution in the increase of the migration toward the country and in the improvement of hygienic conditions within the cities, and a final remedy in the mutual intermixture of the city and the country which would make it possible for both to have the advantages which, at the present time, only one of the two can enjoy.

M. Vandervelde treats the internal migrations from a very broad standpoint. He discusses almost any phase of this complicated problem, and yet he succeeds, in spite of the small bulk of the volume, in communicating in full detail the scientific results of the travels which he undertook in connection with this investigation. His chapter on the workingmen's trains may be especially recommended to American students. His discussion embraces every civilized nation and he utilizes the literature of widely different countries—so far as American authors are concerned, he merely quotes Weber's *Growth of the Cities in the Nineteenth Century*, and Harris's *Present Condi-*

tions of the Hand-Working and Domestic Industries of Germany—and the parallels which he draws between Belgian and German, between English and continental, between American and European, conditions are extremely suggestive. The main drawback of his book is that he occasionally puts too much faith in the assertions of authors whose exactness does not always correspond to the popularity of their writings. Altogether M. Vandervelde's book must be considered a most valuable contribution to the literature on internal migrations.

R. R. KUCZYNSKI.

ELBERFELD, GERMANY.

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*Principles of Political Economy.* By CHARLES GIDE. Second American edition. Translated by C. WILLIAM BEDITZ. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co., 1904. 8vo, pp xiv + 700.

*Elements of Political Economy.* By J. SHIELD NICHOLSON. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1903. Pp. xvii + 520.

It would be clearly gratuitous or even impertinent at this date to call attention to the great and obvious merits of Professor Gide's *Principes d'économie politique*, now in its eighth edition in France, and appearing in English in a new and second rendering, after having been translated into a dozen different languages. No more with this later than with the earlier editions can it be questioned that there exist a need and a place for a book of the quality and temper of Professor Gide's work.

Precisely what appeal, however, this new edition will make to the distinctly economic world, or what degree of adaptation will be found in it for class-room requirements, is not so clear—is, indeed, less clear than was the case with the earlier translation. In the main, the prefatory estimate of Professor Bonar in 1891 applies to the present work: it is “neither a primer for beginners nor a dissertation for the learned; but a good book for serious students who have mastered the economic alphabet and are feeling their way to a judgment of their own on economic subjects.” This fairly well falls in with the author's own judgment, as given in the preface to the first French edition: “This book is not intended for pupils in primary schools or for use in secondary education; nor is it addressed exclusively to students in the universities; its object is also to reach practical men.”